

Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-10 L-03

AID-20 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 INR-10

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TRSE-00 XMB-07 AGR-20 PM-07 OMB-01 DRC-01 /217 W

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FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2333

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

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TAGS: PFOR, PO, AO

SUBJECT: ANOMALIES IN ANGOLA'S RELATIONS WITH ANTI-COLONIAL
CRITICS

REF: A) STATE 211931; B) LAGOS 8280; C) LUANDA A-15;
D) LUANDA A-63

1. ALTHOUGH ASSUMPTION REF A. THAT VARIG LINK BETWEEN LUANDA
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AND KINSHASA MIGHT BE UNACCEPTABLE TO ZAIRE POSSIBLY CORRECT,

IT MAY BE USEFUL KEEP IN MIND SOME OF ANOMALIES IN ANGOLA'S RELATIONS WITH PORTUGAL'S HARSHTEST CRITICS WHEN DISCUSSING SUCH MATTERS WITH THIRD COUNTRIES.

2. AIR ZAIRE ITSELF CURRENTLY FLYING OCCASIONAL CHARTER FLIGHTS (PASSENGERS AND CARGO) BETWEEN KINSHASA AND LUANDA. ACCORDING TO ONE LOCAL SOURCE, AIR ZAIRE HAS REQUESTED REGULAR SERVICE BUT ANGOLAN AUTHORITIES STILL UNDECIDED. AIR TAXI SERVICE READILY AVAILABLE FROM ANGOLA INTO ZAIRE. THERE IS ALSO ONCE WEEKLY (BUT UNSCHEDULED) ROUNDTRIP COMMERCIAL FLIGHT BETWEEN SAO TOME AND LIBREVILLE. LUXAIR HAS JUST INAUGURATED NEW ROUTE ATHENS-LIBREVILLE-LUANDA-JOHANNESBURG, HAS REQUESTED TRAFIC RIGHTS AT LUANDA.

3. ZAIRE IS ANGOLA'S PRINCIPAL BLACK AFRICAN TRADING PARTNER (80 PERCENT OF TOTAL) NOTWITHSTANDING LACK OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS AND OFFICIAL ZAIRIAN HOSTILITY TO PORTUGUESE "COLONIALISM." (SPANISH EMBASSY KINSHASA HARBORS PORTUGUESE DIPLOMAT IN PORTUGUESE INTERESTS SECTION. SAME SYSTEM IN EFFECT IN AT LEAST TWO OTHER AFRICAN COUNTRIES - UAR AND MADAGASCAR - ACCORDING TO LOCAL INFORMATION.) ANGOLAN SALES TO ZAIRE IN 1972 WERE US\$6.3 MILLION, MOSTLY DRIED FISH TRUCKED WEEKLY ACROSS BORDER AT MAQUELA DO ZOMBO. ZAIRE ALSO BUYS MEAT, FOODSTUFFS AND BEER FROM ANGOLA; AND RECEIVES ANGOLAN COFFEE FOR RELABELING AND RESHIPMENT TO DESTINATIONS SENSITIVE ABOUT TRUE PLACE OF ORIGIN, E.G., HOLLAND. (WE ARE UNABLE TO VERIFY RECENT REPORTS REACHING US THAT ZAIRE PERFORMS SIMILAR SERVICE FOR RHODESIAN TOBACCO.)

4. NIGERIA IS ANGOLA'S CHIEF CEMENT CUSTOMER (JUST UNDER US\$1 MILLION IN 1972), IN ADDITION TO BUYING LESSER ITEMS MENTIONED REF B. CEMENT REGULARLY MOVED IN VARIETY OF SHIPS INCLUDING OCCASIONALLY PORTUGUESE REGISTRY. FMG SAID TO BE PRINCIPAL BUYER. (COMMENT: FMG PURCHASE OF ANGOLAN CEMENT NOT TO OUR KNOWLEDGE CRITICIZED AS SUPPORT TO COLONIALIST PORTUGAL, AS IS PURCHASE BY WESTERN COUNTRIES OF ANGOLAN OIL.) TWO OTHER AFRICAN BUYERS OF ANGOLAN CEMENT ARE GABON AND MADAGASCAR.

5. AS NOTED REF C, ANGOLA IS SERVED BY SHIPS RECENTLY BUILT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN AND BOUGHT FROM POLAND, WHICH PRESUMABLY BEING USED FOR MILITARY CARGOES. (COMMENT: TO OUR KNOWLEDGE THIS HAS NOT BEEN LABELED "WARSAW PACT ASSISTANCE" TO COLONIALISTS, NOR HAS COMPARISON BEEN MADE WITH PORTUGAL'S PURCHASE OF 707S USED INTER ALIA FOR MILITARY CARGOES TO ANGOLA.)

6. EASTERN EUROPEAN FLAG VESSELS ROUTINELY CALL AT ANGOLAN PORTS; SHIPPING LINES OF ALL NATIONS LINK ANGOLAN PORTS DIRECTLY

WITH THOSE OF OAU MEMBERS. FOR LAGOS: ACCORDING TO LOCAL MILITARY SOURCE POLISH-FLAG VESSEL MENTIONED REF B ("SWIDNICA") ARRIVED LUANDA FROM MADAGASCAR WITHOUT CARGO, LOADED 2035 TONS ANGOLAN COFFEE BEFORE PROCEEDING TO PORT HARCOURT.

7. COMMENT: PERHAPS, ON REFLECTION, ANOMALIES ARE NOT SO MUCH IN ANGOLA'S RELATIONS WITH ANTI-COLONIAL CRITICS AS IN LATTER'S PUBLIC STATEMENTS AND POSTURING.
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